

1-23-02

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADE MARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Crabtree, et al.
 Application No.: 09/593,360
 Filed: 6/14/2000
 Title: Fire Fighting Nozzle and Method Including Pressure Regulation, Chemical and Education Features (CIP)
 Attorney Docket No.: 0110SS-44500

Group Art Unit:
 3752
 Examiner:
 C. Kim

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE TO THE OFFICE ACTION MAILED DECEMBER 12, 2001

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Dear Sir:

Please amend the claims as per the attached claim amendment sheets.

In response to the above referenced action, applicant supplements the reply filed November 2, 2001. Applicant apologizes for any prior lack of responsiveness. The nonresponsiveness was not realized at the time.

In order for all claims to read on figure 3D, applicant further amends independent claims 33 and 24 herein, as per the attached claim sheets.

Independent claims 1, 12, 14, 19, 20, 21, 39 and 44 are now pending. Claims 1, 19, 21 and 44 are apparatus. Claims 12, 14 and 39 are method claims. The examiner recites that although applicant has elected invention III, species E (figure 3D), applicant has failed to provide a listing of all claims readable on the elected species as required by paragraph 5 of the election/restriction requirement mailed on October 2, 2001.

All the independent claims now read on species E, figure 3D. (Of course, method claims do not require figures per se, and thus an assertion of "reading on" is to be appropriately interpreted.)

Dependent claims 24 through 38 do not so read. (Eg: Claim 33 and those that depend thereon recite a foam concentrate conduit in fluid communication with a fire fighting fluid conduit remote from a fire fighting fluid discharge nozzle. Claim 24 and those that depend thereon recite placing a foam concentrate conduit in fluid communication with a fire fighting fluid conduit remote from a fire fighting fluid discharge nozzle. In the species of figure 3D the foam

concentrate conduit is placed in fluid communication with a fire fighting fluid conduit proximate the discharge of a fire fighting nozzle.)

In regard to claim 21 it might be noted that an adjustable orifice may be regarded as a species of an adjustable passageway. In regard to claim 39 it might be mentioned that those in the field know that a foam concentrate is sometimes supplied pressurized to a self-educing nozzle.

Reconsideration and further examination is respectfully requested.

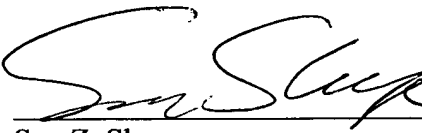
Applicants have made a diligent effort to place the claims in condition for allowance. However, should there remain unresolved issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Sue Z. Shaper, Applicants' Attorney at 713-550-5710 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

For these reasons, and in view of the above amendments, this application is now considered to be in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

It is believed that no further request for extension of time or fees are due. Notwithstanding, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees incurred or credit any overage to Deposit Account No. 50-1753 (0110SS-44500). Please regard this as a further request for extension of time to the extent one is needed.

Respectfully Submitted,

1/16/02
Date

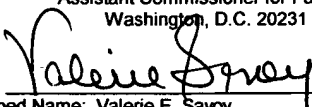

Sue Z. Shaper
Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 31663

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